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Let us suppose that all the bad suspicions that have been ventilated this afternoon are true, and that sending this, by sustaining the point of order, to the Armed Services Committee means that it is buried there. I do not think it would be, but let us assume that. May I point out that the Senate is not without a great family of legislative tools by which we can reactivate this discussion. There is no way, by sustaining the point of order, that we bury this issue in the Armed Services Committee, in limbo and in perpetuity. If a majority of the Senate decide they want to bring it back for decision and for amendment to protect seniority rights if we so desire, we can do it through a series of approaches. We can do it by an amendment to an appropriations bill dealing with the appropriations for the CIA, because we can put it on as a restrictive rider. That has been done before. We can do it by an amendment to some other piece of legislation. The Senate can force its will, and I think that the proper thing to do, under these circumstances, is to sustain the point of order, see what happens for a given period of time in the Armed Services Committee, and then, if a majority of the Senate is dissatisfied with what they have done, reactivate it by any one of a whole series of legislative tools we have available. We are not deciding the issue forever and a day as of now.

Mr. PASTORE. But does not the Senator feel that since we have been behind closed doors now for about 3 or 4 hours, the eyes of the country are upon us?

Mr. MUNDT. And they are not seeing anything.

Mr. PASTORE. They are not seeing anything, but they are wondering what is transpiring here. Would it not be more comforting and reassuring to the people of the United States of America, when we go out of here, if they learn that as gentlemen we agreed to do something, not that we had to split our lines and be recorded as being pro or con on the proposition.

As the Senator has pointed out, this is not a final vote. It will decide nothing. This is merely a vote on jurisdiction; and many of us feel—I, for one—that possibly there ought to be some participation on the part of the Foreign Relations Committee on some sort of committee, whether a standing committee, a select committee, or some group of the Senate.

I am one of those who feel that the Armed Services Committee has primary jurisdiction, and they should be given an opportunity to look at this. If we can do it by agreement, I think it would look a lot better.

Mr. MUNDT. That would suit me perfectly.

Mr. PASTORE. And it would look as if, after all, we sat here as reasonable people and decided that on an amicable basis. If we did that, the country would be refreshed, and reassured.

Mr. MUNDT. If that could be done.

Mr. PASTORE. But this insistence that "I will prove that I am right and you are wrong" is not going to decide anything, because this is going to brew and brew until one day we decide whether it is right or wrong to have members of the Foreign Relations Committee participate.

Mr. MUNDT. It would make me very happy if we could do it by an amicable process. I simply wish to point out, that however we do it, we arrive at the same legislative home, with the same results and the same opportunities to reactivate it at any time a majority of the Senate desires.

Several Senators. Vote. Vote.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I am quite certain in my own mind, at least, that the distinguished Senator from Georgia and his committee will not be too unreasonable in seeking a solution to the question which is before us at the moment.

But, having said that, I now ask unanimous consent that there be a sanitized version of these proceedings prepared, that it be under the authority of the chairman and the ranking minority members of the Armed Services Committee and the Appropriations Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee; that they will take out anything which might be detrimental, and that the record be made public and that any Senator who participated shall have the right to correct his own remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INOUYE in the chair). Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I move that the Senate now go out of closed session and return to regular legislative session, for the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from Montana.

The motion was agreed to; and, at 4 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m., the Senate returned to open legislative session.

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